

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: THATCHER, *et al.*
Serial Number: 09/473,713
Filed: December 29, 1999
Group Art Unit: 1614
Title: Methods and Compositions for Mitigating Pain
Examiner: Delacroix-Muirheid, C.
Agent Ref. No.: 1999-028-01US

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir,

AMENDMENT and RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

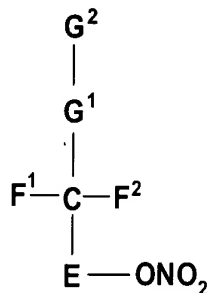
This is responsive to the Office Action dated October 24, 2002. Please amend the instant application as shown below:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 12 and amend claims 11, 13, 14, 15, 24, 26, 28, 41, and 42 as follows:

11. (Twice amended) A method for providing sedation, mitigating anxiety or providing anaesthesia in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to a subject an effective amount of a therapeutic compound, wherein the therapeutic compound is of the formula (Ia):

(Ia)



in which F^2 is an organic radical which may be joined in a cyclic ring system with G^2 ,